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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET/

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia/USSR/Satellites

REPORT NO

25X1

SUBJECT Purported Soviet-Yugoslav Negotiations
Re Overflights to Albania

DATE DISTR.

27 Jan. 1954

NO. OF PAGES

1

25X1

25X1 DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO.

25X1 PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

1. Extended negotiations have been taking place between the government of the USSR and the government of Yugoslavia in connection with the USSR request to grant Soviet planes permission to overfly Yugoslavia en route to Bucharest, Rumania and Tirana, Albania.
2. The Yugoslav Government was prepared to permit these overflights as in the past¹ provided the Soviet planes landed at Zemun for control purposes, and that in return, the USSR would permit the Yugoslavs to operate a plane service to Vienna, overflying the Soviet Zone of Austria. However, since the USSR refused to grant Yugoslavia permission to overfly the Soviet Zone of Austria, the negotiations have broken down. Until the USSR is ready to grant the requested permission, Yugoslavia will not permit Soviet overflight of its territory.

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Comment: The above illustrates what the Soviet Union means by "normalization of relations with Yugoslavia".

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no Soviet planes had been landing at the airfield in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, since the discontinuance of flights on 14 April 1953, although there have presumably been some illegal flights between Albania and Bulgaria.

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